

**S3 Table. Qualitative article summary table, by policy period**

#	Article Ref	Study Design	Setting (R=rural; PU/T= peri- urban/ township; U=urban)	Sample Characteristics	Data Collection Methods	Infant Age	Analysis
<b>Period 1 (1980-1999)</b>							
1	Kruger & Gericke, 2001	Mixed methods	R (Moretele, NW)	154 caregivers <i>-24 caregivers of infants &lt;6m</i>	24 FGDs <i>-4 FGDs</i>	0-36 months	Ethnographic content analysis
2	Seidel, 2000	Sociological, informed by discursive theory & feminist scholarship	U (Pietermaritzburg, KZN)	Healthcare workers	IDIs (semi-structured & open)	Not relevant	Social constructionism
3	Seidel, 2004	Sociological, using ethnographic and multiple qualitative methods  Critical & discursive theory, feminist	R & U (Sundumbili, Songonzima  Songonzima, Edendale & Pietermaritzburg, KZN)	120 multiparous mothers  Traditional birth attendants (TBAs)  Health workers, AIDS counsellors & doctors	IDIs (semi-structured & open) Group discussions  Interviews	Not stated	Discursive
4	Seidel et al., 2000	Sociological	U (Durban, KZN)	13 HIV+ mothers who attended a peer support group	2 in-depth discussions, including role play	Not stated (some dead)	Social constructionism

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<b>Period 2 (2000-2007)</b>							
5	Buskens & Jaffe, 2008	Ethnographic	R (Watersmeet, KZN, Idutwa, EC) PU/T (Soweto, GP; Langa & Hanover Park, WC, Motherwell, EC) U: (Ladysmith, KZN, Ravonsmead, WC) + <i>Namibia &amp; Swaziland</i>	82 HIV+ mothers in PMTCT 2 pregnant women 15 relatives 7 counsellors 7 nurses 3 PMTCT coordinators	In/formal interviews; 7 FGDs; Observations	Not specified	Conceptual framework analysis and analytic retrodution
6	Buskens, Jaffe, & Mkhathshwa, 2007	Ethnographic	Same as above	Not disaggregated by country; likely same as above	In/formal interviews; FGDs; Observations	Not specified	Conceptual framework analysis
7	Chopra et al, 2002	Mixed methods, rapid assessment	PU/T (Khayelitsha, WC)	11 HIV+ mothers 11 counsellors	IDIs (structured)	Not specified	Content analysis
8	Doherty et al, 2006 (a)	Qualitative	R (Rietvlei, EC) PU/T (Paarl, WC, Umlazi, KZN)	40 HIV+ mothers  Community health workers (CHWs)	40 IDIs (semi-structured) 3 FGDs (8-10 in each)	8 months (mean age)	Thematic content
9	Doherty et al, 2006 (b)	Qualitative, longitudinal	Same as above	27 HIV+ mothers at pregnancy then, 1, 4, 6 12 weeks postpartum	116 IDIs	12 weeks	Thematic analysis

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10	Du Plessis, 2009	Mixed methods	U (Johannesburg, GP)	6 primigravidaes attending new mother support group at private clinic	6 IDIs	>6 weeks	Descriptive analysis
11	Hildebrand, Goemaere & Coetzee, 2003	Mixed methods	PU/T (Khayelitsha, WC)	38 HIV+ mothers in a PMTCT programme	FGDs	12 weeks mean age	Not specified
12	Mackowski, 2005 [MA Thesis]	Qualitative	PU/T (Khayelitsha, WC)	5 HIV+ mothers in the m2m programme 3 mentor mothers 3 site coordinators	11 IDIs (semi-structured)	3-9 months	Grounded theory approach
13	Nor et al, 2009	Qualitative	R (EC) PU/T (WC) PU/T (KZN)	27 mothers	17 IDIs 10 Observations	12-24 weeks	Not specified
14	Nor et al, 2011	Qualitative, emergent inductive design	See above	17 HIV+ and HIV- mothers	17 IDIs (semi-structured)	12-16 weeks	Qualitative interpretive description & social constructivist conceptual framework
15	Sibeko et al., 2009	Qualitative	PU/T (KZN)	11 mothers (HIV+ and HIV-)	IDIs	3 months (avg.)	Content analysis
16	Stinson & Myer, 2012	Not stated [Qualitative]	U (Cape Town, WC)	11 HIV+ $\leq$ 6-month postpartum <i>17 HIV+ pregnant</i>	IDIs	<6 months	Thematic approach to narrative analysis

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17	Thairu et al, 2005	Ethnographic nested in cohort study	R (KZN)	22 HIV+ mothers, part of cohort study	Ethnographic interviews (semi-structured)	Not stated	Conversation and thematic analysis
18	Varga & Brookes, 2008	Narrative research - Participatory	PU/T (Mankweng , LP) R (Siloam, LP)	10-15 teen mothers, clinic staff, VCT counsellors & young adults  100 teen mothers (50 rural:50 urban)  Teen (15-19 year old) mothers	2 Key informant workshops  Community-based survey  2 FGDs (10-12 each)	Not stated	Grounded theory approach
<b>Period 3 (2008-2011)</b>							
19	Andreson et al, 2013	Mixed methods, longitudinal	R (Butterworth & Nozuko, EC)	12 HIV+ mothers 12 “Buddies”	IDIs (3x) IDIs (3x)	2-6 months by end	Content analysis
20	Chaponda, Goon & Hoque, 2017	Qualitative	U (Thembisa, GP)	30 HIV+ mothers in postnatal wards	IDIs Observations	Not specified	Thematic analysis
21	Goosen, McLachlan & Schübl, 2014 (a)	Mixed methods	PU/T (Avian Park & Zwelenthemba, WC)	65 mothers -17 EBF/ <i>predom.</i> -19 <i>partial BF</i> -29 <i>no BF</i>  26 fathers 20 grandmothers 9 healthcare workers (HCWs)	7 FGDs -2 FGDs -2 FGDs -3 FGDs  3 FGDs 2 FGDs 1 FGD	<6 months	Thematic

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22	Goosen, McLachlan & Schübl, 2014 (b)	Qualitative	See above	36 mothers -17 EBF/predom. -19 partial BF 26 fathers 20 grandmothers 9 HCWs	4 FGDs -2 FGDs -2 FGDs 3 FGDs 2 FGDs 1 FGD	See above	Content analysis
23	Ijumba et al, 2012 [NB: all formula feeding mothers]	Qualitative	PU/T (KZN)	11 HIV+ mothers 9 HIV- mothers 14 grandmothers 13 fathers 13 teen mothers	11 IDIs 9 IDIs 2 FGDs (7;7) 2 FGDs (7; 6) FGD HIV+ (7) FGD HIV- (6)	<6 months	Thematic analysis
24	Laher et al, 2012	Mixed methods, concurrent	PU/T (Soweto, GP)	45 HIV+ mothers of HIV+ infants in PMTCT programme	35 structured interviews 2 FGDs (10)	Not stated	Thematic and content analysis
25	Madiba & Langa, 2014	Qualitative 2011-2012	U/T (Tshwane, GP)	43 HIV+ mothers	5 FGDs	3-6 months	Thematic data analysis
26	Madiba & Letsoalo, 2013	Not stated [Qualitative]	U/T (Tshwane, GP)	25 HIV+ mothers in PTMCT programme	4 FGDs	6 weeks to 6 months	Thematic data analysis
27	Ramara, Maputle & Lekhuleni, 2010	Phenomen-Ological	R (Mankweng, LP)	10 HIV+ mothers	30 IDIs (3x)	2-24 weeks	Tesch's open-coding
28	Swarts, Kruger & Dolman, 2010 *Unclear sample size	Not stated [Mixed methods]	R ( Lower Umfolozi District, KZN)	22 mothers staying at hospital lodge (infants had complications)	4 FGDs (8 each), but only 3 used b/c data saturation*	Not stated	"Coded by topic"

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29	Zulliger, Abrams, & Myer, 2013	Mixed methods, convergent parallel	PU/T (Gugulethu, WC)	12 HIV+ mothers (out of 34, which included pregnant)	IDIs (semi-structured)	“Recent postpartum”	Open-coding and Thematic
<b>Period 4 (2012-2018)</b>							
30	Hunter-Adams et al, 2016	Qualitative	U (Cape Town, WC)	23 Congolese, Somali and Zimbabwean mothers 21 men and 27 women from three countries	IDIs  9 FGDs (3 male & 6 female, by origin)	Mothers had to have given birth in past 2 years	Thematic analysis
31	Jama et al, 2017	Qualitative, longitudinal cohort	R (KZN) U (KZN)	22 mothers (including some teenagers 15-19, HIV+ and working) who intended to EBF	125 IDIs	<6 months	Framework analysis
32	Modiba, 2015  <i>[NB: all formula feeding mothers]</i>	Qualitative, exploratory, descriptive & contextual	U (GP)	12 HIV+ mothers enrolled at least 3 months in PMTCT Programme	IDIs (semi-structured)	Not stated	Thematic content
33	Mushaphi et al., 2017	Nested qualitative in cohort study	R (Dzimauli, LP)	37 caregivers	4 FGDs (7-10 each)	6 months	Thematic content analysis
34	Ntuli & Modibedi, 2015	Qualitative, exploratory	U (Tshwane, GP)	32 HIV+ mothers in PMTCT programme	5 FGDs (6-8 each)	6 weeks to 6 months	Thematic content analysis & open coding